STRATEGIES OF VOCABULARY ENRICHMENT OF FUTURE SPECIALISTS IN APPLIED MECHANICS IN THE PROCESS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRAINING

Today much attention is paid to the problem of teaching foreign languages in psychological, pedagogical and methodological literature. There are many methods used in language teaching. The intensive teaching of a foreign language can be explained by the fact that it helps to develop skills and abilities to communicate in a foreign language in oral and written forms on different topics.

The ability to understand oral speech, which is developed at the very initial stage of intensive training, is improved and converted into skills in the course of training and provides understanding of 50 - 100% of the amount of information received. In real communication environment, the volume of perception and understanding of oral speech in a foreign language can increase owing to the development of students’ skills of “foreign language activity”.

To create a sufficiently high level of development of listening skills, the student must master the “lexical minimum of listening”, which is about 6,000 vocabulary units. This is a special kind of vocabulary which is realized not only through familiar words, but also through knowledge of the rules of word formation. It includes unfamiliar words that are understandable as students develop contextual comprehension skills. And this, in turn, is possible when creating students’ internal structure of learning a foreign language and through the experience of communication that students have in general.

Participation in the communication process involves mastering oral speech in a foreign language, i.e. forming speaking skills. As listening skills, communication skills demand some level of lexical minimum and the material that ensures the implementation of these skills.

However, oral speech determines the number of lexical units and language material in general which must be mastered by the student to be able to participate in the communication process. This minimum, in addition to the vocabulary and grammatical material of the language, involves mastering of a number of basic extralinguistic means of speech, such as the speed, nature of pauses, their duration and location.

Studies show that the important element of lexical material activation is creation of speech surrounding by means of visual aids [2].

The selection of lexical material for teaching a foreign language by future specialists in applied mechanics is based on the topic principle. This means that in the thematic organization of each text the thematic words undergo an additional checking in terms of frequency of use, high semantic significance, ratio, availability and possibility of implementation of their synonyms,
antonyms and homonyms [1].

Of particular importance in the learning process is the issue of distribution of educational material over time. It is determined and regulated by a number of factors: didactic, methodological, psychological, socio-psychological. The material of the first courses, on the one hand, allows teachers to create conditions for the implementation of all necessary communication skills in a foreign language and, on the other hand, is stored in students’ memory, creating a basis for learning a foreign language for professional purposes.

Thus, enriching students’ vocabulary in the process of a foreign language learning involves complex and parallel development of all types of speech activities, almost simultaneous formation of skills and abilities of listening and speaking in a foreign language, as well as reading and writing skills.

References: